



2



WAID
LUPACCHINO
BELLAIRE

WORLD'S FINEST: TEEN TITANS

HOUSE OF HORRORS



SAMWEE '23
Mat
Lopes

13+
TEEN

DISCOVER HOW THE DARK KNIGHT MET THE MAN OF STEEL!

BATMAN • SUPERMAN
**WORLD'S
FINEST** #18



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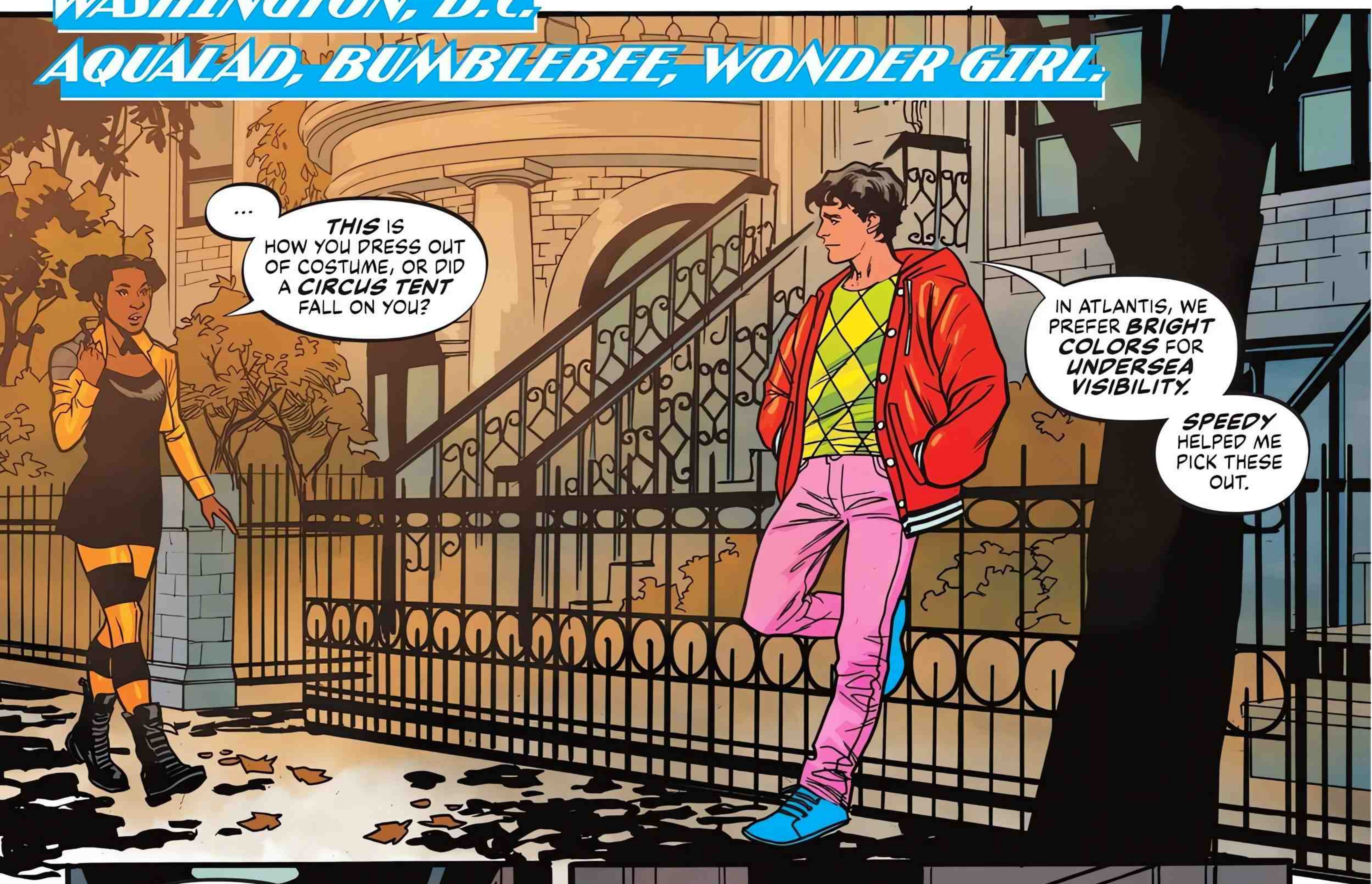
AUGUST

WRITTEN BY
MARK WAID

ART BY
TRAVIS MOORE

MAIN COVER BY DAN MORA

WASHINGTON, D.C. AQUALAD, BUMBLEBEE, WONDER GIRL.



...
THIS IS
HOW YOU DRESS OUT
OF COSTUME, OR DID
A CIRCUS TENT
FALL ON YOU?

IN ATLANTIS, WE
PREFER **BRIGHT**
COLORS FOR
UNDERSEA
VISIBILITY.

SPEEDY
HELPED ME
PICK THESE
OUT.



OF COURSE
HE DID. GOD BLESS
YOU, JUST **LOOKING**
AT YOU MAKES MY
EARS RING.

DONNA?
HELLO? IT'S GARTH
AND KAREN! ARE
YOU TH--

**KNOCK
KNOCK**



SHE'S GETTING
DRESSED. CAN I
HELP YOU?



HUH.

INSIDE OUT

MARK WAID WRITER
EMANUELA LUPACCHINO ARTIST
JORDIE BELLAIRE COLORIST
STEVE WANDS LETTERER
CHRIS SAMNEE & MATHEUS LOPES COVER
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RILEY ROSSMO, AND MEGAN HUANG VARIANT COVERS
JOHN TIMMS *BLUE BEETLE* MOVIE VARIANT COVER
CHRIS ROSA ASSOCIATE EDITOR
BRITTANY HOLZHERR EDITOR
PAUL KAMINSKI GROUP EDITOR



HEY, YOU TWO! COME ON IN!

MAL, THIS IS KAREN!



AND *THIS* FANTABULOUS BOY--

!

--IS GARTH!



THIRSTY.

PARCHED.



THIS IS MY NEW FRIEND **MAL DUNCAN**. HE'S A **COMMUNITY ORGANIZER** FOR THE NEIGHBORHOOD.

HE PULLS IN FUNDING FOR THINGS LIKE **YOUTH GROUPS** AND HOMES FOR **TROUBLED KIDS**.

SHE'S MAKING IT SOUND TOO IMPRESSIVE. I JUST LOOK OUT FOR KIDS GROWING UP THE WAY I DID, THAT'S ALL. HI.

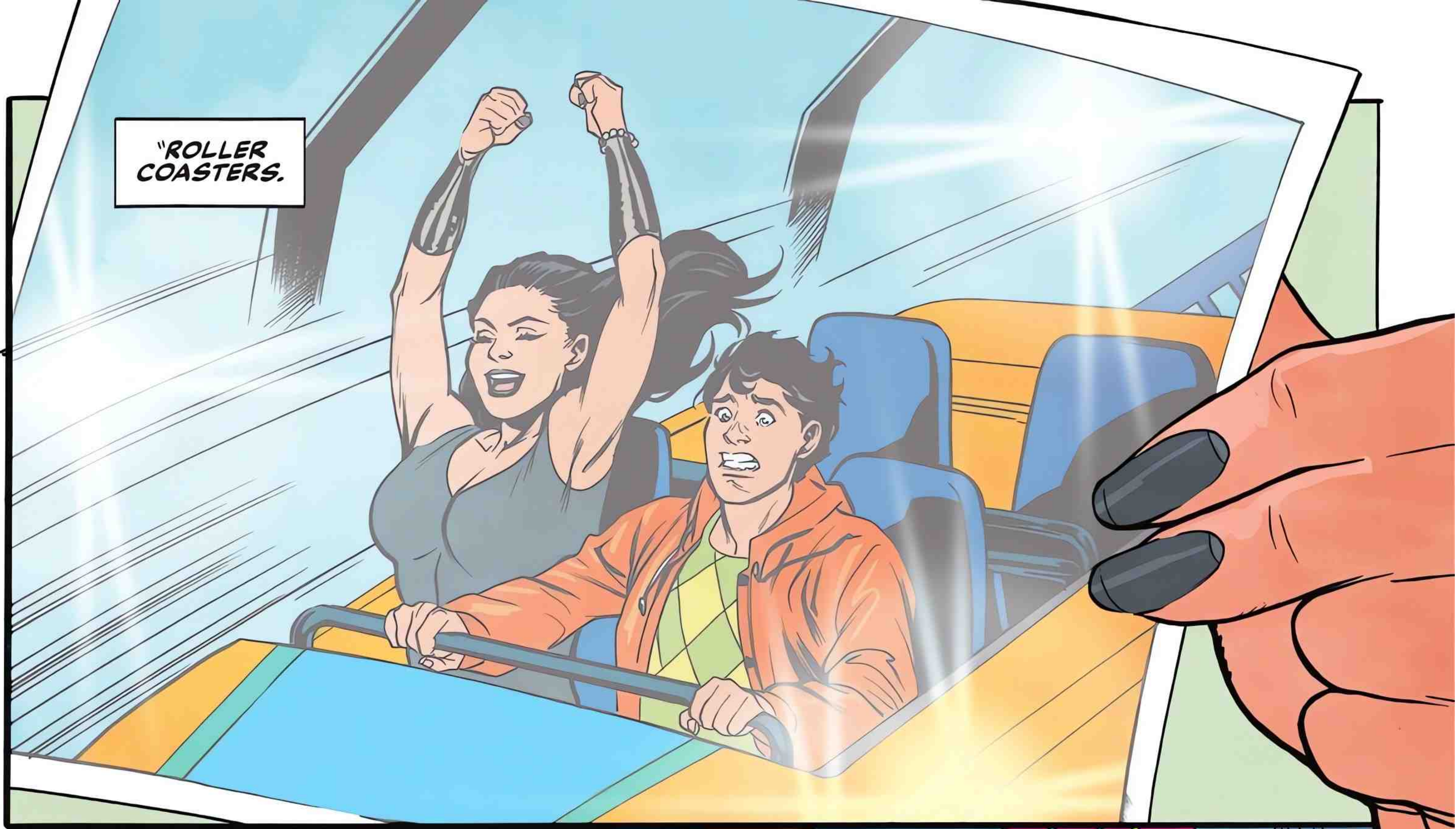
HI.



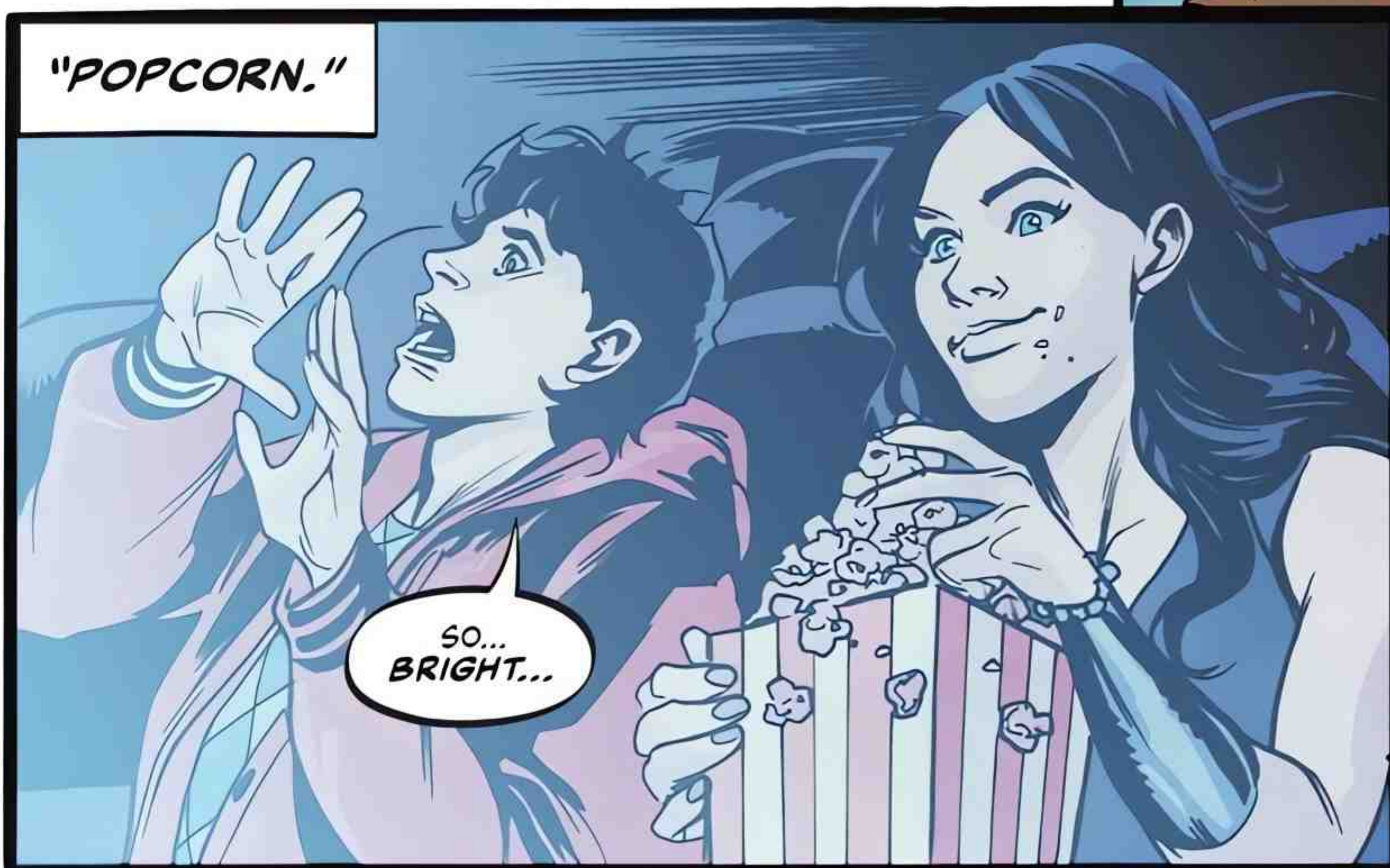
DOESN'T LEAVE MUCH TIME FOR A **PAYING GIG**, SO RIGHT NOW, I'M **COUCH-SURFING**. WE GOOD?

...SURE...?





"ROLLER COASTERS."



"POPCORN."

SO...
BRIGHT...



I'VE TAKEN
ABOUT A MILLION
PICTURES FOR MY
AMAZON SISTERS.
THEY'LL BE SO
JEALOUS!

WHAT DO
YOU LIKE **MOST**
ABOUT BEING
HERE?



BESIDES ALL MY
NEW FRIENDS?
THAT'S **EASY.**

A VERY **SPECIAL**
KIND OF **MUSIC** YOU
CAN'T HEAR ON
PARADISE ISLAND.



THE
LAUGHTER OF
CHILDREN.



CHAPEL HILL, NORTH CAROLINA

ROBIN, SPEEDY.





FUN. WHO **ELSE** WANTS THEIR HEAD DETONATED, GANG?

RELAX, **GREEN ARROW** LITE. IT HIT ME **EXTRA HARD** BECAUSE OF MY **EMPATHIC POWERS**. DROWNS THEM **RIGHT OUT**.

YOU MIGHT FIND IT **TRIPPY** IN THERE, BUT YOU'LL PROBABLY BE ALL RIGHT. STILL WE HAVE TO **SAVE DALISAY** FROM **WHATEVER'S** IN THERE.



ALL RIGHT. **WONDER GIRL, SPEEDY, AQUALAD**--YOU THREE CHECK **THE HOUSE**.

KID FLASH, BUMBLEBEE AND I WILL GO TALK TO **DALISAY'S FRIENDS**, SEE IF THEY CAN TELL US SOMETHING.

LILITH, YOU AND GNARRK STAY **HERE** TO RELAY INFORMATION. ANYTHING WE DISCOVER, WE'LL COMM IT IN.



YOU SURE YOU DON'T WANT **AQUALAD** TO SIT THIS ONE **OUT**, MAN? UNLESS THERE'S AN **EXTRA-BIG FISH TANK** IN THERE, IF WE GET IN **REAL TROUBLE**--

--I'M **SURE** YOUR **ANTI-PSYCHIC-ATTACK ARROW** WILL SAVE THE DAY. **JUST GO**.



DON'T GET YOUR **CAPE** IN A BUNCH, **TWEETY BIRD**.

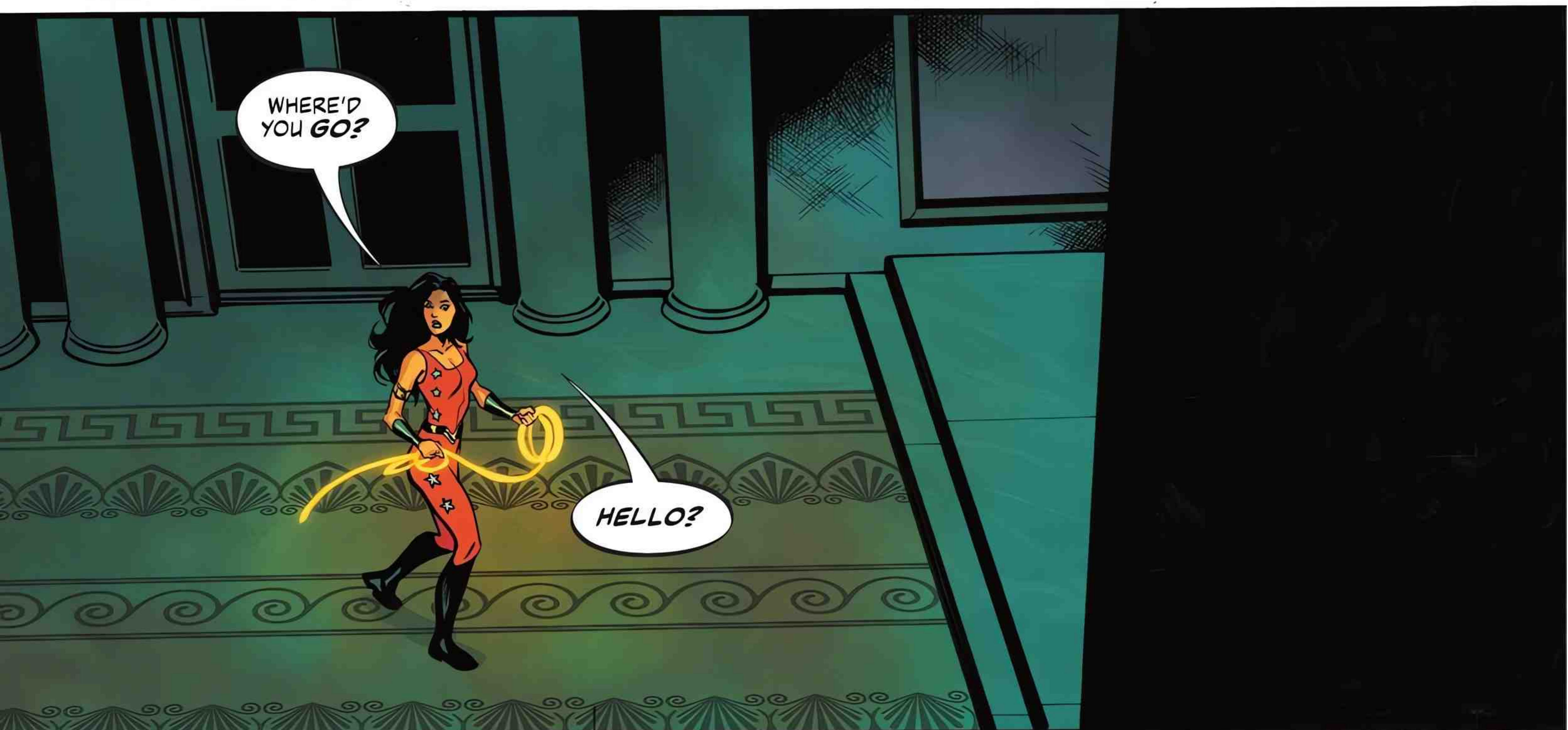
DON'T YOU MEAN **"BAT-NARC"**?

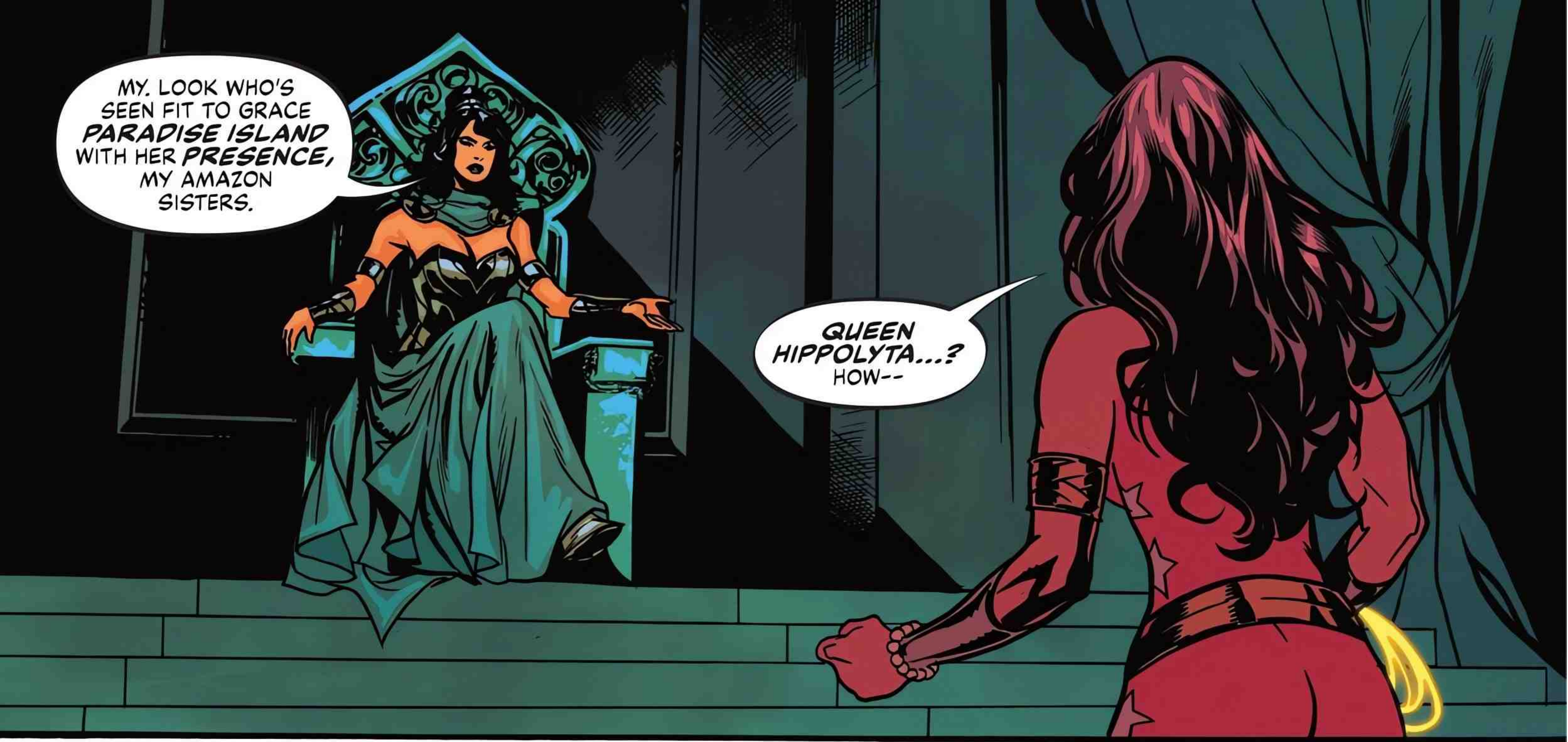
SIGH

WHATEVER, DUDE.



OKAY. LET'S GO--





MY. LOOK WHO'S
SEEN FIT TO GRACE
PARADISE ISLAND
WITH HER **PRESENCE**,
MY AMAZON
SISTERS.



**QUEEN
HIPPOLYTA...?**
HOW--



SILENCE!

WHAT COULD
YOU **POSSIBLY**
HAVE TO **SAY** THAT'S
WORTH **HEARING**,
CHILD?



WE TOOK YOU IN AS AN
ORPHANED INFANT. WE
GAVE YOU **EVERYTHING**
YOU HAVE! **MADE** YOU
EVERYTHING
YOU ARE!

AND YOU
DISAPPOINT US
BY **DIRTYING** YOUR
SHOES WITH THE
FILTHY SOIL OF
MAN'S WORLD!



MY **QUEEN!**
I--I DON'T
UNDERSTAND--

--YOU
COMMANDED ME
TO **EXPLORE**! YOU--YOU
WANTED ME TO **KNOW** MY
BIRTHLAND SO I COULD
CHOOSE **WISELY**
BETWEEN--







WE'RE NOT FINDING MUCH **OUT** OTHER THAN THE GIRL WAS **SCREAMING** WHEN SHE RAN AWAY.



YOU?

TONS.

THIS IS **VICKI**. THEY'RE DALISAY'S **BEST FRIEND**. **VICKI**, WE'RE GOING TO **RESCUE** HER, I **PROMISE**.

PLEASE **TRUST** US. TELL **THEM** WHAT YOU TOLD **ME**. OUR FRIEND **LILITH** IS LISTENING, **TOO**.



DALI **WASN'T** **SCR--WASN'T--**

SNFF

O-O-KAY.

A COUPLE OF YEARS AGO, DALI FOUND OUT SHE COULD...WELL, SHE COULD KINDA **READ MINDS**.

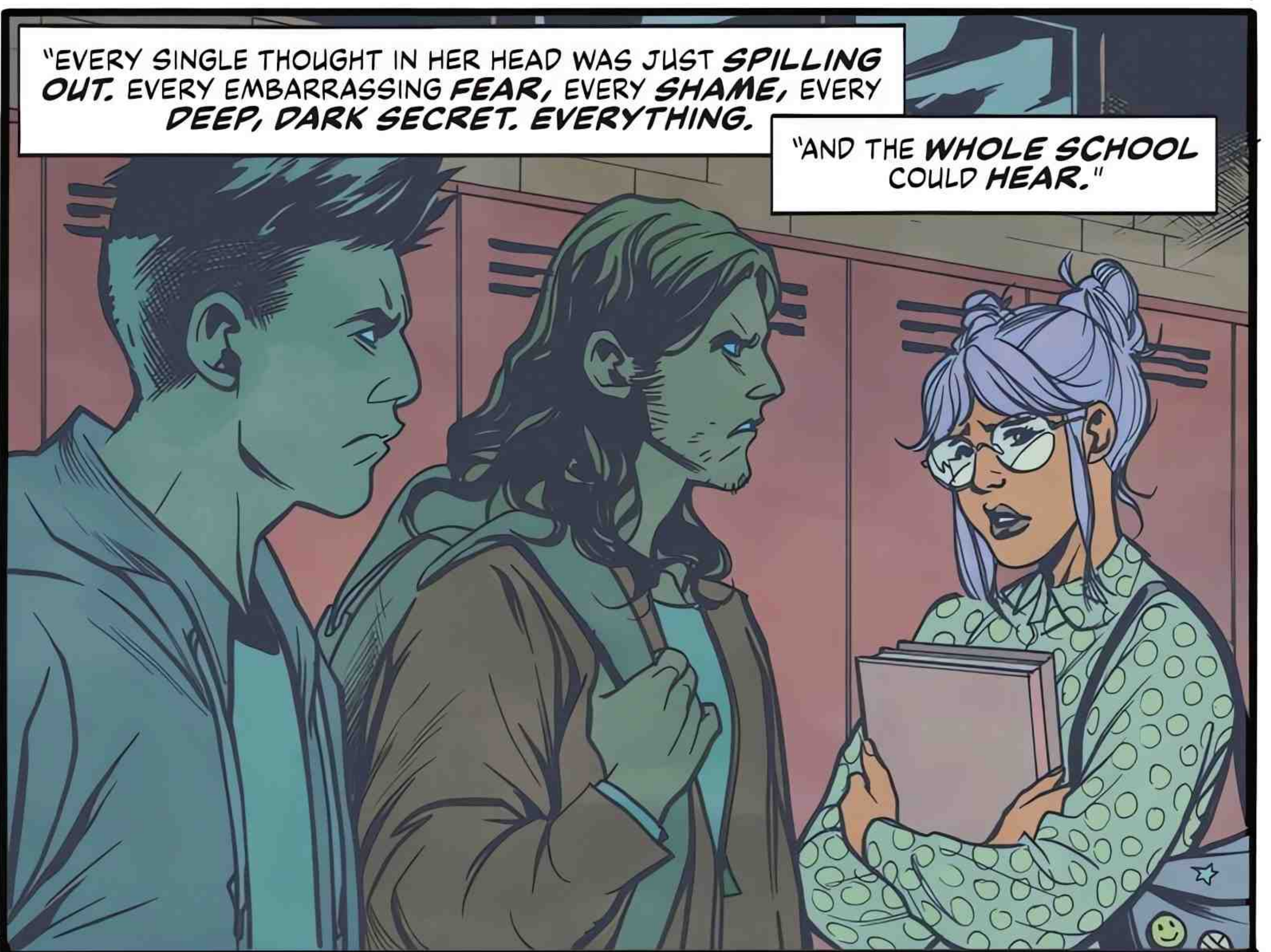
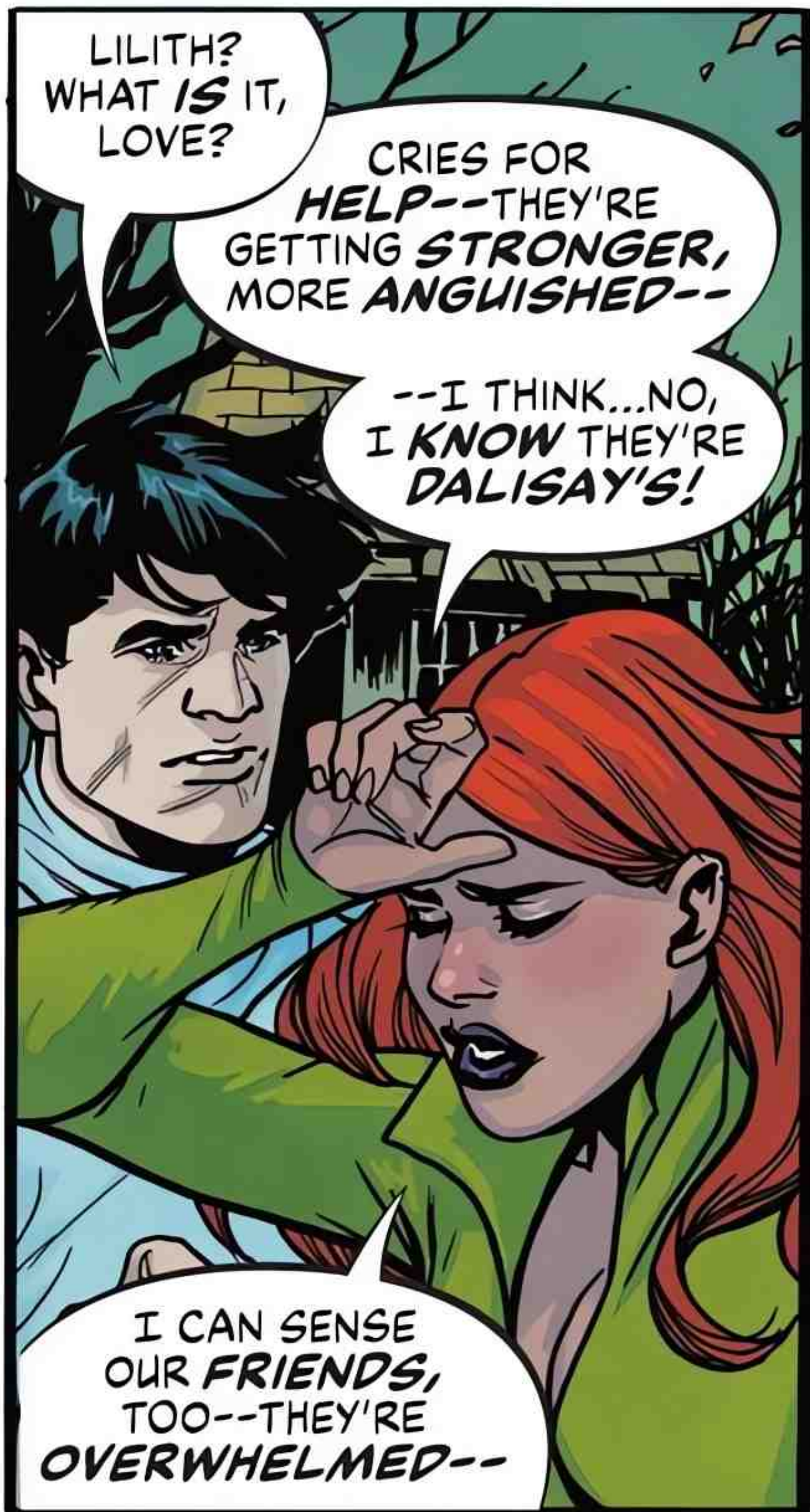
"LITTLE **SCRAPS** AT FIRST. PICKING UP **RANDO THOUGHTS**. BUT NO WAY TO **CONTROL** OR **FOCUS** IT. IT **TERRIFIED** HER.

"SHE TRIES HARD TO KEEP IT **SHUT DOWN**. SHE'S AFRAID PEOPLE WILL **FIND OUT** AND EVERYONE WILL **HATE** HER. SHE HASN'T TOLD **ANYBODY** BUT ME, NOT EVEN HER **FOLKS**.

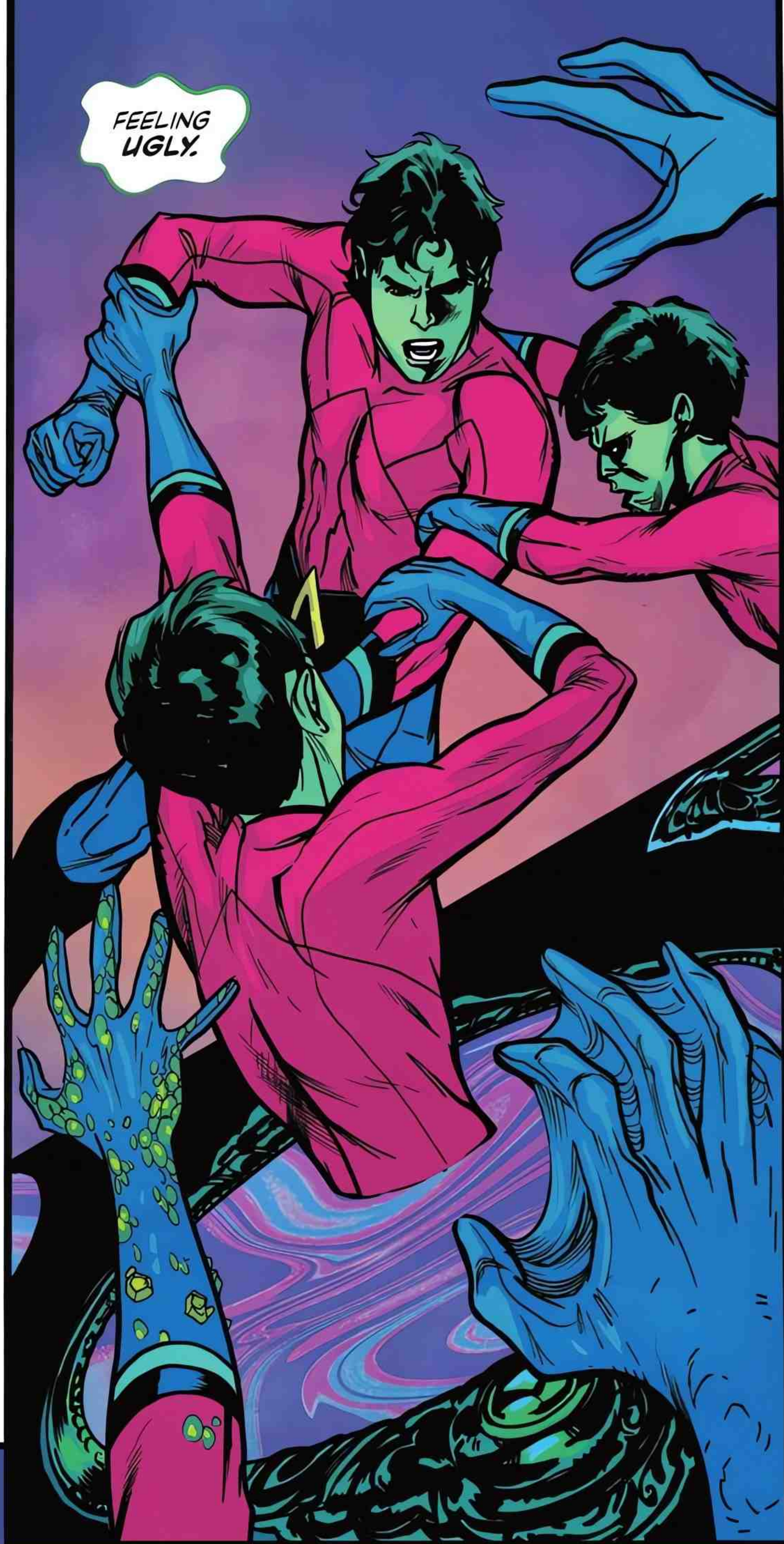


BUT HER POWER'S BEEN GETTING **STRONGER**. AND THEN, THE OTHER DAY...OH GOD, THE **OTHER DAY...**











FEAR IS A
SURVIVAL
INSTINCT.

BUT YOU
DON'T *HAVE*
TO LET FEAR
CONTROL
YOU.



I'M A
M-MONSTER!
I'M NOT
NORMAL!



YOU'RE
INSECURE.
EVERYONE IS,
GROWING UP.

I WAS BORN
WITH *PURPLE*
EYES. TO MY
PEOPLE, THAT MEANT
I WAS A REPULSIVE
EVOLUTIONARY
THROWBACK.



MY MOTHER WAS
KIND ABOUT IT,
BUT *I* FELT LIKE A
HIDEOUS
MONSTROSITY.
LIKE *EVERYONE*
WAS *CALLING*
ME THAT.

UNTIL ONE
DAY, IN ALL THAT
NAME-CALLING, I
ASKED MYSELF
WHOSE VOICE WAS
LOUDEST.



"IT WAS
MINE."

...
WE NEVER
KNEW...

"AND MAYBE I COULDN'T CONTROL WHAT **OTHER** PEOPLE SAID TO ME, BUT I **COULD** CONTROL WHAT **I** SAID.



"SO I STARTED TELLING MYSELF I WAS **WORTHWHILE**. IT SOUNDED **FAKE** AT FIRST. IT WAS **HARD**, BUT I KEPT **AT** IT.



I REALLY HAD TO **WORK** AT IT. I **STILL** DO SOMETIMES.



BUT IT HELPED. A LOT.

~SNFF~

I...

IS THAT SOMETHING YOU'D LIKE TO TRY?

...I GUESS SO...



WOULD YOU LIKE SOME HELP?



YES.



OKAY.





"SHE'LL
BE ALL RIGHT
FOR NOW.



I'VE HELPED HER FIND A TEMPORARY
"OFF SWITCH" IN HER BRAIN. **GARTH**
WANTS TO STICK AROUND FOR A FEW DAYS,
TOO--KEEP AN **EYE** ON HER.

I BET HER CLASSMATES WILL
REMEMBER DALISAY LESS AS THE
GIRL WITH THE **EMBARRASSING**
OUTBURST AND MORE AS THE GIRL
WHO KNOWS THE TITANS
PERSONALLY.

AFTER THAT,
I'VE GIVEN HER
PARENTS THE NAMES
OF SOME PEOPLE WHO
SPECIALIZE IN
THIS SORT OF
THING.



WOW. LOOKS
LIKE **YOU** GOT
WORKED OVER
PRETTY GOOD.

I GOT IN SOME
SHOTS. WHAT ABOUT
YOU, WONDER
DOLL?



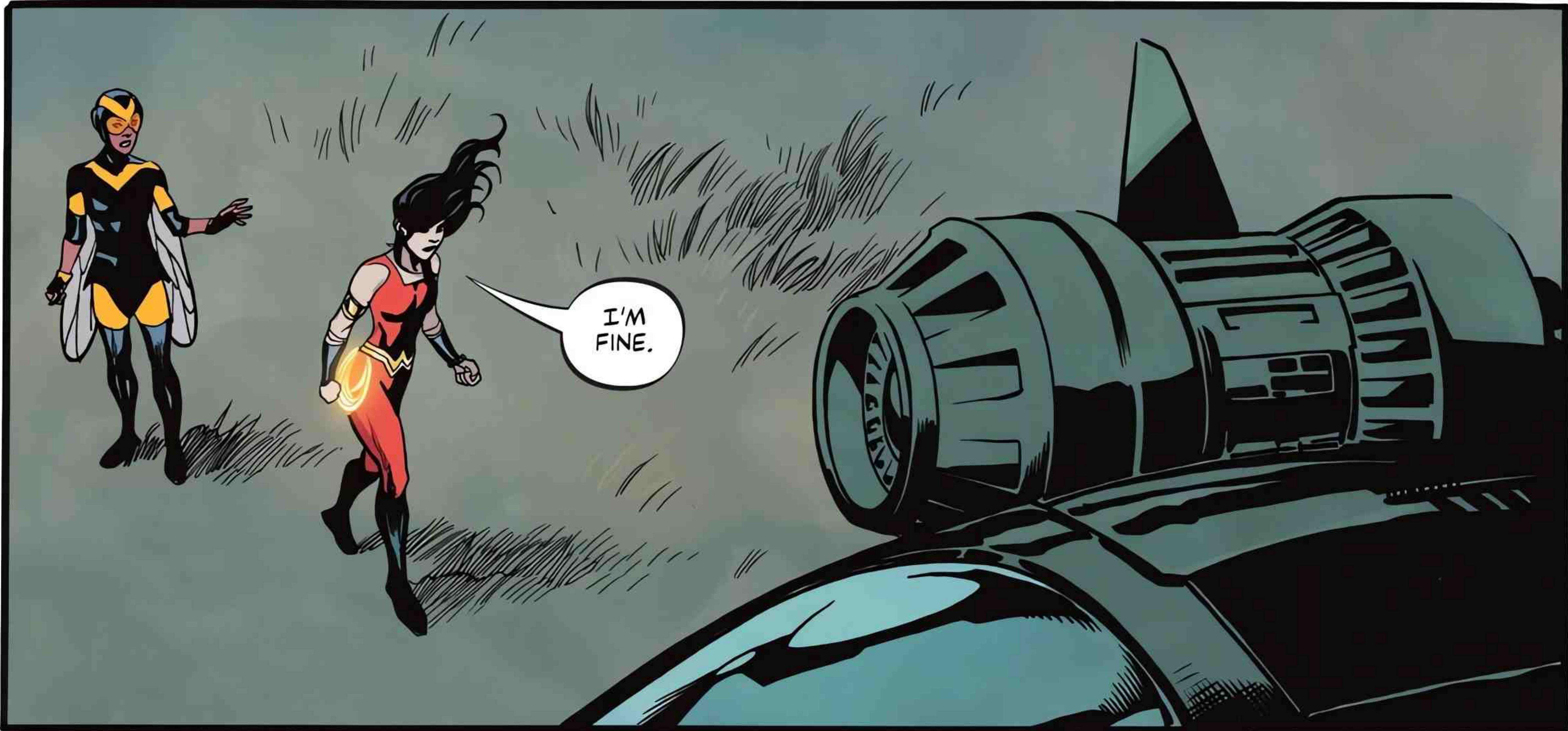
YOU GAVE
'EM **HELL**,
I BET.

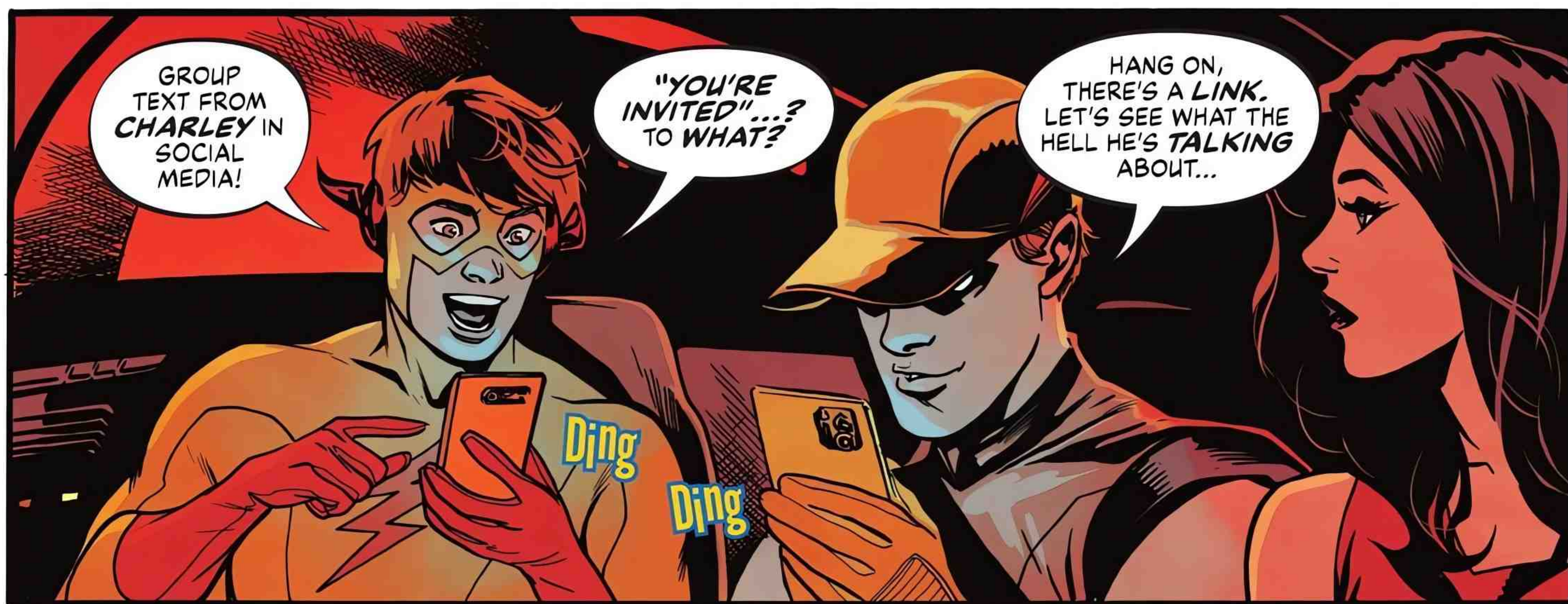
DONNA?
YEAH?



HONEY,
YOU **OKAY?**
TALK TO
ME.

...





NEXT: TITANSCON!

AN EERIE MELODY HAUNTS THE GOTHAM CITY STREETS...
CAN THE DARK KNIGHT DISCOVER WHAT
SINISTER FORCE IS PLUCKING THE STRINGS?

"Ram V and Albuquerque
weave a delicate dance
between supernatural
horror and superheroics."

—comicbook.com

BATMAN™

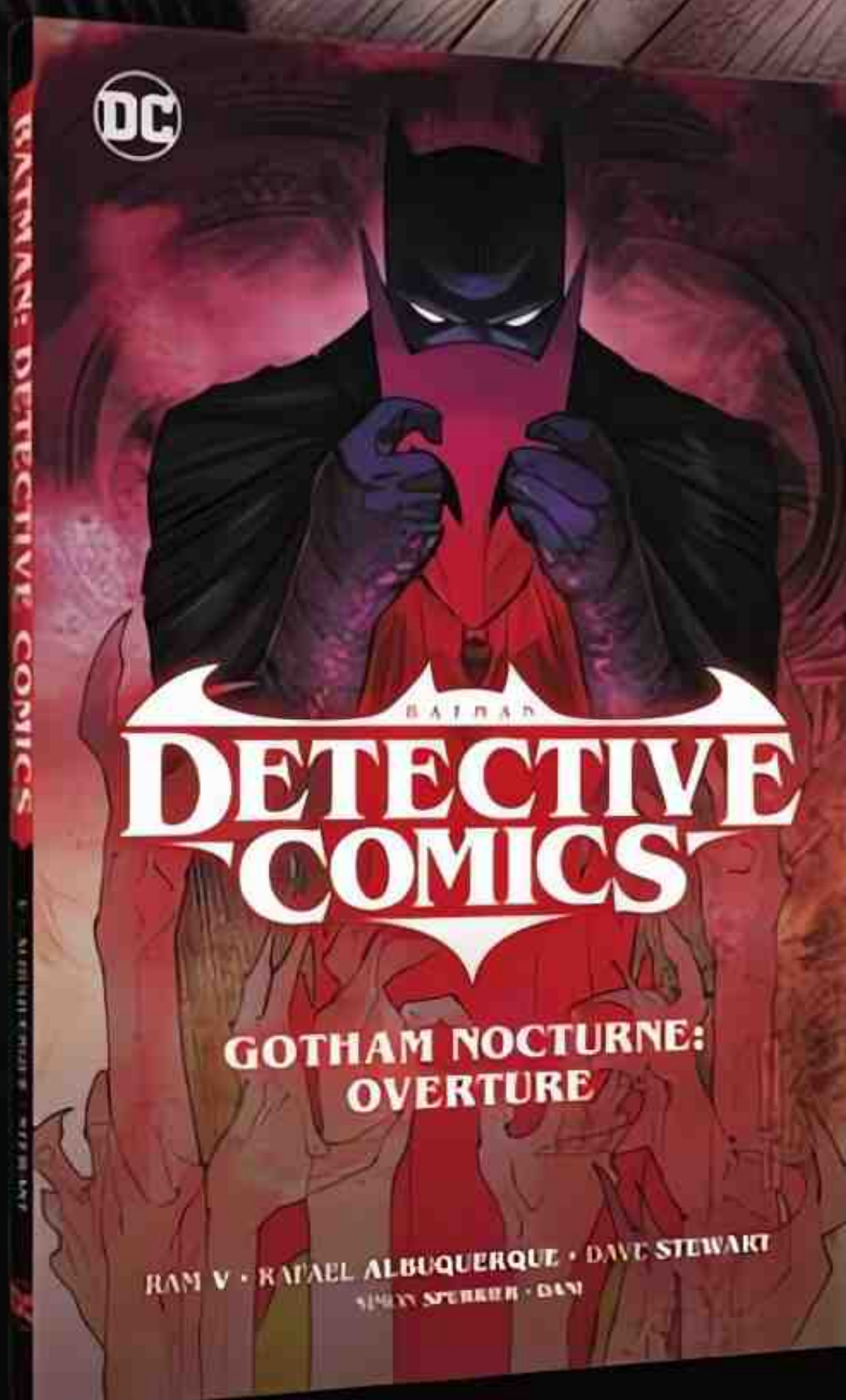
DETECTIVE COMICS™

VOL. 1:

GOTHAM NOCTURNE: OVERTURE

WRITTEN BY
RAM V
WITH SI SPURRIER

ART BY
**RAFAEL
ALBUQUERQUE**
WITH DANI



© & TM DC



AUGUST

GEORGE LOPEZ

RUDY IN

Blue Beetle



What can you tell us about Rudy, your character in the film?

On my last trip to Atlanta, I was in a car and I looked out the window and there was a guy working for the city with about a 10-inch goatee, glasses, long hair, and a city orange vest that had no sleeves, and I thought, man, that's me. I like the idea that we're so quick to judge somebody by the way they look, and Rudy is a bit of a contradiction from the way that he looks.

Why do you think the scarab chose Jaime Reyes as its host?

I think it chose Jaime because it knew that he's a good guy. The scarab chose somebody who would use their powers for good. If you go back into the bug lair and you see Ted Kord's previous Blue Beetle uniforms it was from a guy that had money, was a little bit eccentric, and would create these outfits for himself...but he couldn't fly anywhere.

What can fans expect from Blue Beetle's costume?

You've seen nothing until you've seen the Blue Beetle costume deploy and the pincers retract! It's amazing to see him fly and fight. He operates in a dark blue and black costume, similar to charcoal, which may be the coolest colors of all time. It feels more like a skin than an actual costume. I've seen a lot of bugs in my day, but I've never seen one that looks like that.

How is being a part of Blue Beetle meaningful to you?

As an actor, I've been fortunate enough to have done stand-up for a long time, had my own show named after me, and a number of other incredible things in my career. However, I would have hated to not be involved in this project. If I wasn't cast in this movie it would've been heartbreaking in a sense, but I'm honored to be a part of it. To know that you're specifically chosen to be in this great project, and give life to a guy like Rudy, is beyond an honor.



IN THEATERS AUGUST 18!

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